

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-9, and add new claims 10-20 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Backrest (2) of an automobile vehicle seat including:
 - a framework (21),
 - a padding (3),
 - a padding cover (4) covering the padding and a front face and sides of the backrest, and a padding screen (7) for a rear face of the backrest, characterized in that it includes and a rigid back panel shield frame (6) with at least two lateral sides (62) and a bottom side (63),
the shield frame being adapted to be attached to the framework (21) of the backrest so as to cover lateral edges of the framework and a bottom part of the rear of the backrest, the shield frame (6) including towards an inner edge at least one groove (64) adapted to accommodate and hold an edge (44) of the padding cover and an edge (71) of the screen, and the said padding cover covering at least a portion of the shield frame.
2. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the shield frame (6) is closed and includes four sides, the groove (64) running continuously around the four sides,
the screen (7) is attached around its complete periphery (71) in the said groove, and
an the edge (44) of the padding cover is also attached around its contour complete periphery in the said groove.
3. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that wherein the edge of the padding cover (4) includes on its edge flaps (41) which extend beyond the padding (3) and cover the sides of the shield frame (6).

4. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the attachment means of wherein the edges of the screen and/or the padding cover include elastic clips (46) which can be inserted into corresponding holes (65) made in the bottom of the groove (64).

5. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 4, characterized in that wherein the clips are made from a profiled strip (45) with an arrow-shaped section sewn onto the edge (44, 71) of the padding cover (4) and/or of the screen (7).

6. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein a suspension mat (26) is attached to the shield frame (6).

7. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the shield frame (6) includes, on a at least one lateral side, a counterform (68) for an inflatable protective cushion.

8. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the shield frame is made of a recycled plastic material.

9. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the shield frame (6) includes:

two lateral sides to ensure the shape of the lateral edges of the rear of the backrest, and a bottom side (63) to ensure the shape of the bottom of the backrest and to allow the attachment of the lower edge (71) of the screen (7) and of a lower flap (43) extending from the front face of the padding cover (4) and passing under the lower edge of the backrest.

10. (New) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the padding cover covers all the external surfaces of the padding and includes a plurality of flaps that extend beyond the edges of the padding so as to cover the outer edges of the sides of the shield frame.

11. (New) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the screen is a flexible textile film.
12. (New) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the framework includes an upper crossmember, two lateral uprights, and a lower crossmember.
13. (New) Backrest in accordance with claim 12, wherein lower ends of the lateral uprights accommodate backrest-to-seat pan hinge mechanisms.
14. (New) An automobile vehicle including at least one seat comprising the backrest in accordance with claim 1.
15. (New) A seat comprising:
 - a backrest; and
 - a seat pan hinged to the backrest,wherein the backrest includes:
 - a framework,
 - a padding,
 - a padding cover covering the padding and a front face and sides of the backrest,
 - a screen for a rear face of the backrest, and
 - a rigid back panel shield frame with at least two lateral sides and a bottom side, the shield frame being adapted to be attached to the framework of the backrest so as to cover lateral edges of the framework and a bottom part of the rear of the backrest, the shield frame including towards an inner edge at least one groove adapted to accommodate and hold an edge of the padding cover and an edge of the screen, and the padding cover covering at least a portion of the shield frame.

16. (New) The seat in accordance with claim 15,
wherein the shield frame of the backrest is closed and includes four sides, the groove
running continuously around the four sides,
the screen of the backrest is attached around its complete periphery in the groove, and
the edge of the padding cover of the backrest is also attached around its complete
periphery in the groove.
17. (New) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the edges of the screen of the
backrest and/or the padding cover of the backrest include elastic clips which can be inserted into
corresponding holes made in the bottom of the groove.
18. (New) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the padding cover of the backrest
covers all the external surfaces of the padding and includes a plurality of flaps that extend beyond
the edges of the padding so as to cover the outer edges of the sides of the shield frame.
19. (New) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the framework of the backrest
includes an upper crossmember, two lateral uprights, and a lower crossmember.
20. (New) An automobile vehicle including at least one seat in accordance with claim 15.